

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00
AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03
H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 EPG-02 AID-05 SS-15 STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00
USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 FEA-01 NEA-10 OPIC-03
SIL-01 XMB-02 /144 R

DRAFTED BY EB/ISM:JJSTJOHN
APPROVED BY EB/ISM:JJSTJOHN, ACTING
TREASURY:TDULANEY
COMMERCE:AMACONE
BUMINES:HSCHROEDER
ARA/ECP:ACOOLEY
AF/ECP:LMWHITE
EA/ECP: MHENDERSON
EUR/RPE:ECASEY
O/IEP:EBRUCE

-----119103 200126Z /70

R 191854Z JUL 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LIMA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: EMIN, UNCTAD, IEGC

SUBJECT:UNCTAD-COPPER: SPECIFICATIONS FOR FEASIBILITY

STUDY

REF: (A) STATE 135120, (B) BONN 10684, (C) CANBERRA 4835,
(D) GENEVA 5350

1. IN VIEW OF AUSTRALIAN REPRESENTATIVE'S RELUCTANCE TO TAKE "INFORMAL COMMITTEE OF IECE" APPROACH WITH REGARD TO PRESENTATION OF FEASIBILITY STUDY SPECIFICATIONS TO SECRETARIAT, US MISSION GENEVA SHOULD PRESENT SPECIFICATIONS TO SECRETARIAT AS US VIEW ON COVERAGE AND METHODOLOGY OF STUDY. IN TRANSMITTALLETTER MISSION SHOULD EMPHASIZE THE VITAL IMPORTANCE OF A COMPREHENSIVE AND RIGOROUS STUDY, AND SHOULD URGE THAT SECRETARIAT ACCOMPLISH AS MUCH PREPARATORY WORK AS POSSIBLE PRIOR TO FIRST MEETING OF IEGC. WITHOUT PREJUDGING GUIDANCE TO BE ISSUED BY IEGC, SUCH PREPARATORY WORK COULD INCLUDE SURVEY OF EXISTING COPPER MODELS TO ASSESS THEIR SUITABILITY FOR USE IN THE STUDY, ASSESSMENT OF ALTERNATIVE METHODOLOGIES FOR COST/BENEFIT AND IMPACT ESTIMATES, AND PRELIMINARY INTERVIEWS WITH POTENTIAL CONTRACTORS (CRU, CRA, ETC.) TO DETERMINE THEIR AVAILABILITY AND CAPABILITY TO ASSIST SECRETARIAT, AS REQUIRED.

2. MISSION SHOULD NOT REPEAT NOT ASK SECRETARIAT TO CIRCULATE US DRAFT SPECIFICATIONS AS AN IEGC DOCUMENT AT THIS TIME. WE MAY WISH TO DO SO AFTER ADDRESSEES' COMMENTS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED.
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3. FOR ADDRESSEES IN OECD COUNTRIES: PLEASE INFORM APPROPRIATE HOST GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS OF US INTENTIONS AND SOLICIT THEIR COMMENTS AND SUPPORT IN PRINCIPLE FOR TERMS OF REFERENCE ALONG LINES OF OUR DRAFT. OUR FEELING IS THAT MAJOR OBJECTIVE OF FIRST IEGC MEETING SHOULD BE TO SPECIFY TERMS OF REFERENCE AND OTHERWISE LAY GROUNDWORK FOR EFFECTIVE STUDY. WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT A THOROUGH AND OBJECTIVE FEASIBILITY STUDY IS IMPORTANT NOT MERELY TO FULFILL THE CURRENT IEGC MANDATE BUT, ALSO AS AN AID IN DECIDING WHETHER TO UNDERTAKE NEGOTIATION OF A COMMODITY AGREEMENT FOR COPPER AND (SHOULD THAT DECISION BE AFFIRMATIVE) AS A FACTOR IN THE NEGOTIATION ITSELF. YOU SHOULD NOTE, HOWEVER, THAT WE ARE NOT PUTTING OUR ENTIRE RELIANCE ON THIS STUDY; USG IS CONTINUING ITS OWN INTERNAL EXAMINATION OF MANY OF THESE AREAS, AND WE PRESUME SEVERAL OTHER COUNTRIES ARE DOING LIKEWISE. NEVERTHELESS, WE FEEL THERE IS NEED TO DEMONSTRATE FORWARD MOVEMENT IN THIS AREA, AND WE BELIEVE THAT THIS STUDY CAN SERVE BOTH TO CLARIFY AND REDUCE TO SPECIFIC TERMS A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT PROBLEM AREAS. WE BELIEVE THIS MOVEMENT TOWARDS GREATER SPECIFICITY ON THE STABILIZATION QUESTION SHOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY SIMILAR MOVEMENT ON THE

QUESTION OF A PRODUCER/CONSUMER FORUM; WE INTEND SOON TO CIRCULATE INFORMALLY SOME SUGGESTIONS IN THIS REGARD.

4. FOR BONN: IN ADDITION TO ABOVE, PLEASE INFORM KIPPER AND KNOTTE THAT BRADFORD MILLER, WHO WILL ARRIVE IN BONN JULY 21 TO REPLACE FRANK KINELLY, IS HANDCARRYING MATERIAL REQUESTED PARA 5 OF AIDE MEMOIRE CITED IN BONN REFTEL. WE BELIEVE THE SHIFT IN TACTICS MENTIONED ABOVE BRINGS US MORE CLOSELY INTO LINE WITH THE GERMAN VIEW AS CITED IN PARA 2 OF THE AIDE MEMOIRE.

5. FOR ADDRESSEES IN NON-OECD COUNTRIES: PLEASE GIVE COPY OF DRAFT SPECIFICATIONS CONTAINED IN REFTEL (A) TO APPROPRIATE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS; EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF A THOROUGH STUDY, DRAWING IN PARTICULAR ON PARA 6 OF REFTEL (A); AND SOLICIT HOST GOVERNMENTS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COMMENTS AND SUPPORT IN PRINCIPLE FOR SPECIFICATIONS ALONG LINES OF OUR DRAFT. PLEASE REPORT REACTIONS.

6. FOR ALL ADDRESSEES: WE RECOGNIZE THAT EACH GOVERNMENT WILL HAVE ITS OWN VIEWS ON STUDY, BUT HOPE OUR DRAFT WILL FACILITATE ARRIVAL AT A COMMONLY AGREED SET OF SPECIFICATIONS. SINCE IN VIRTUALLY ALL CASES THE REQUISITE TECHNICAL EXPERTISE IS IN THE CAPITALS, RATHER THAN IN GENEVA, EMBASSIES SHOULD SOLICIT DETAILED COMMENTS ON OUR DRAFT SPECIFICATIONS AS SOON AS GOVERNMENTS HAVE HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO STUDY THEM, SAY IN ABOUT ONE OR TWO WEEKS. VANCE

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